Silchar-Jiribam Rail Line

* 362. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the work of conversion of Silchar-Jiribam metre gauge rail line into broad-gauge would start; and

(b) whether Government would also take up the survey work of Jiribam to Imphal?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The gauge conversion of Silchar-Jiribam has been approved as a part of gauge conversion of Lumding-Silchar project. The work would be taken up once Lumding-Silchar is in advanced stage of completion, which will depend on availability of resources.

(b) The survey for new line form Jiribam to Imphal has already been included in the budget 2001-02.

Forest projects in Madhya Pradesh

† *363. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a forest project in Madhya Pradesh was started by taking loan form the World Bank; if so, the details of the project, the cost thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) whether this project has been implemented in Chhattisgarh also and the share of loan to be borne by that State; and

(c) if so, the details of amount spent and the quantum of work done in Chhattisgarh before division of Madhaya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) A World Bank assisted forestry project was implemented in Madhya Pradesh from 1995-96 to 1999-2000. The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 245.79 crores as against which an expenditure of Rs. 255.41 crores was incurred. The main

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

components of the project included human resource development, rehabilitation of degraded forest through joint forest management, technological upgradation and bio-diversity conservation.

(b) and (c) The project covered various areas of Madhya Pradesh including areas now part of Chhattisgarh an amount of Rs. 74.74 crores was spent under various components of the project in the various Forest Circles which are now part of the State of Chhattisgarh. The project was completed before the bifurcation of the State of Madhya Pradesh. The calculation of the total loan liability of Chhattisgarh including that for this project is in accordance with the principles laid down for sharing of assets and liabilities between Madhay Pradesh and Chhattisgarh under* the Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000.

Adult and non-formal Education centres

* 364. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of adult and non-formal education centres operating in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether all these centres are operating smoothly;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up more adult the non-formal education centres in States; and

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Continuing Education Centres (CECs) which targets Adult non-literates and neo-litcrates in the age group of 15—35 years are established under the scheme of Continuing Education. Under the Scheme, 94,784 Continuing Education Centres have been sanctioned so far in the country for operationalisation including 18,621 in Andhra Pradesh. The efforts of the Government are to bring all the districts of the country under the scheme of Continuing Education by the end of 10th Plan. The powers to sanction Continuing Education Projects are vested in the respective State Literacy Mission Authorities.

The scheme of Non Formal Education has been revised as the